EH- 25-01

Conley, Rose & Tayon

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
THE CHASE BUILDING
700 LAVACA, SUITE 800
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-3102
(512) 476-1400
FACSIMILE (512) 703-1250
www.intprop.com

HOUSTON OFFICE
CHASE TOWER
600 TRAVIS, SUITE 1800
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002-2912
(713) 238-8000
FACSIMILE (713) 238-8008



FILE: 5659-01000 TH1934

April 24, 2001

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Rrit Baker

ATTN: PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

INCLUDING

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ERIC B. MEYERTONS

emeyertons@intprop.com

(512) 703-1254

ATENTS, TRADEMARKS.

Re: U.S. Patent Application Entitled "IN SITU THERMAL PROCESSING OF A HYDROCARBON CONTAINING FORMATION USING A NATURAL

DISTRIBUTED COMBUSTOR" -- Vinegar, et al.

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a disclosure including a title page, a 274 page specification, 772 pages of claims (Claims 1-5395), and a one page abstract. In addition, we have also included 182 formal drawings on 163 sheets. The disclosure and drawings constitute the application of Harold J. Vinegar, Scott L. Wellington, Eric de Rouffignac, John M. Karanikas, Ilya E. Berchenko, George L. Stegemeier, Kevin A. Maher, Etuan Zhang, Gordon T. Shahin, James L. Menotti, John M. Coles, Thomas D. Fowler, Charlie R. Keedy, Ajay M. Madgavkar, Martijn van Hardeveld, Robert C. Ryan, Lanny Schoeling and Fred G. Carl for the above-entitled invention.

Commissioner for Patents April 24, 2001 Page 2

Please note that this application is filed without an inventor Declaration and filing fees. Applicant requests the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicant requests that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED be sent to the undersigned Applicant representative.

Please address all correspondence in connection with this application to:

DEL CHRISTENSEN SHELL OIL COMPANY P.O. BOX 2463 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77252-2463 PH: (713) 241-3997

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric B. Meyertons Reg. No. 34,876

Attorney for Applicant

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